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Providing the Australian Curriculum in Prep to Year 10 in Queensland state schools from 2017

Implementing the Australian Curriculum

Schools are required to implement all eight learning areas of the [Australian Curriculum](#), Version 8, by the end of 2020. Schools:

- determine an implementation schedule, in consultation with the school community and with reference to government priorities¹.
- should be mindful of school capacity, teacher workload, time necessary for teachers to become familiar with the curriculum and to plan for curriculum delivery.

A flexible approach to implementing the Australian Curriculum

From 2017, schools have greater flexibility in how they implement the Australian Curriculum. This flexibility supports schools to deliver the curriculum, reduce the number of learning areas reported on in each semester and allows more time for students to develop their learning².

Version 8 of the Australian Curriculum provides in-built flexibility. Schools can use one of the approaches below, or a combination of both to implement the curriculum:

- A **learning area approach** (recommended for primary schools), for example:
 - **Humanities and Social Sciences** (instead of History, Geography, Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship)
 - **The Arts** (instead of Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music and Visual Arts)
 - **Technologies** (instead of Digital Technologies and Design and Technologies).

In Prep to Year 6 the Australian Curriculum learning areas are to be provided each year, refer to Table 1.

- A **subject specific approach** (recommended for secondary schools), for example, Digital Technologies and Design and Technologies (instead of **Technologies** in Years 7 and 8).

In Years 7 to 10 the Australian Curriculum subjects are to be provided in each year or within a band of years. Schools are required to use the Australian Curriculum learning areas/or subjects to provide electives in Years 9 and 10, refer to Table 2.

Some learning areas/subjects³ can be implemented across a band of years; in a particular year within a band; or in a single semester.

Schools use OneSchool's functionality to record school based decisions about the program of learning. This determines the learning areas and/or subjects that will be reported on each semester. These decisions are also recorded in the school's [whole school curriculum, assessment and reporting plan](#).

In delivering the curriculum, **all aspects** of the achievement standard for each learning area and/or subject provided in a year or band of years are to be covered.

The content descriptions guide teaching and learning programs and assist with developing understanding of the achievement standards.

Recommended time allocations

The recommended time allocations are a guide and have been provided to help schools plan for programs of study. Schools are encouraged to develop timetables of study that are appropriate to their individual school context.

The recommended time allocations reflect the department's commitment to [supporting student learning](#) in literacy and numeracy and curriculum initiatives, including [Schools of the future \(STEM\)](#) and [Global schools through languages](#).

They also reflect the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) indicative times for writers. These times account for not more than 80% of available teaching time and enable individual schools flexibility in decision making.

Resources

[Curriculum into the Classroom \(C2C\)](#) materials support the implementation of the Australian Curriculum.

Schools are encouraged to adapt these materials to suit their context. When adapting, ensure that the alignment to the relevant achievement standard is maintained.

1 [Advancing Education: An action plan for education in Queensland](#)

2 OneSchool will support Queensland state schools' transition to full implementation of the Australian Curriculum by continuing to provide both the Queensland and Australian Curriculum learning areas and subjects for Academic Reporting and Curriculum planning.

3 History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, The Arts, Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts, Digital Technologies, and Design and Technologies subjects.



Prep to Year 6

In Prep to Year 6 the Australian Curriculum learning areas are to be provided each year.

Table 1: Recommended time allocations in Prep to Year 6⁴

Learning areas		Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
English	Hours per year	280	280	280	280	240	240	240
	Per week	7	7	7	7	6	6	6
Mathematics	Hours per year	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
	Per week	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Science	Hours per year	40	40	40	70	70	70	70
	Per week	1	1	1	1h 45m	1h 45m	1h 45m	1h 45m
Humanities and Social Sciences ⁵	Hours per year	40	40	40	60	60	80	80
	Per week	1	1	1	1h 30m	1h 30m	2	2
The following learning areas have curriculum in bands of years. Schools make decisions about when they are to be offered. ⁶								
Health and Physical Education	Hours per band	80	160 (80 hours per year)		160 (80 hours per year)		160 (80 hours per year)	
	Per week	2	2		2		2	
The Arts ⁷	Hours per band	120 (40 hours per year)			100 (50 hours per year)		100 (50 hours per year)	
	Per week	1			1h 15 m		1h 15 m	
Technologies ⁸	Hours per band	60 (20 hours per year)			80 (40 hours per year)		120 (60 hours per year)	
	Per week	30 m			1		1h 30m	
Languages ⁹	Hours per band	120 (40 hours per year)			120 (60 hours per year)		120 (60 hours per year)	
	Per week	1			1h 30 m		1h 30 m	

4 Table 1 represents the recommended time allocations suitable for the whole curriculum as reflected in the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (2012) *Curriculum Design Paper: Version 3.1*. However, schools make decisions about allocations of time.

5 Humanities and Social Sciences OR individual subjects: History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business.

6 Schools choose when they will offer each learning area. They may not all be offered in a particular semester.

7 The Arts OR individual subjects: Drama, Dance, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts.

8 Technologies OR individual subjects: Digital Technologies, Design and Technologies.

9 Schools are to provide Languages in Years 5 and 6, and are encouraged to provide Languages from Prep.

Years 7 to 10

In Years 7 to 10 the Australian Curriculum subjects are to be provided in each year level or within a band of years.

Schools are required to use the Australian Curriculum learning area and/or subjects to provide electives in Years 9 and 10.

Table 2: Recommended time allocations in Years 7 to 10¹⁰ in hours per year

Subjects	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10 ¹¹
English ¹²	Up to 240	140	140	130
Mathematics ¹²	Up to 200	140	140	130
Science ¹²	100	100	120	110
Humanities and Social Sciences ¹³ OR	120			
History ^{12,14}	40	40	50	45
Geography	40	40	50	45
Economics and Business	20	20	50	45
Civics and Citizenship	20	20	20	20
Health and Physical Education ¹²	160		150	
The Arts ¹⁵	160		150	
Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts	160		150	
Technologies ¹⁶	160		150	
Digital Technologies, Design and Technologies	160		150	
Languages ¹⁷	160		150	

The subjects schools provide as electives in Years 9 and 10.

No content or achievement standard available.

10 Table 2 represents the recommended time allocations suitable for the whole curriculum as reflected in the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (2012) *Curriculum Design Paper: Version 3.1*. However, schools make decisions about allocations of time.

11 Year 10 is based on 38 weeks per year rather than 40 weeks per year.

12 English, Mathematics, Science, History and Health and Physical Education are to be provided each year.

13 In Year 7 schools may choose to teach, assess and report on either the Humanities and Social Science learning area or the individual subjects.

14 History is to be provided in at least one semester in Years 8 to 10 (and in Year 7 if not implementing Humanities and Social Sciences).

15 In Years 7 and 8 schools are to provide students with at least one of The Arts subjects.

16 In Years 7 and 8 schools may choose to teach, assess and report on either the Technologies learning area or the individual subjects.

17 Schools are to provide Languages in Years 7 and 8, and are encouraged to provide Languages as electives in Years 9 and 10.